

## REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated May 10, 2005. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are independent claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 2-5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2, 4 and 5 are submitted herein in independent form. Accordingly, Claims 2, 4, and 5 are allowable over Lu. Claim 3 depends from Claim 2 and is allowable for at least that reason.

Claims 1, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,815,490 to Lu ("Lu").

It is true as asserted in the Office Action that Lu shows a packet transmission network comprising a plurality of network nodes coupled via at least two rings. However, the nodes of each ring are the same nodes. Take for example FIG. 3B of Lu, the node members of ring P1 (shown as N(1), N(2), N(3), and N(4)) are the same node members of ring W1.

In sharp contrast thereto, Lu does not disclose or suggest (emphasis provided) a "packet transmission network operating in accordance with a packet switching method, comprising a plurality

of network nodes coupled via at least a first ring and a second ring, wherein each of the at least two rings operate in pairs that work in opposite directions, and wherein the nodes of the first ring are different than the nodes of the second ring, the nodes containing each in status tables entries about the location of a defect and switched loops from one ring to another ring in a network node, wherein a network node, after detecting a repaired defect, is provided for changing an entry in its status table and for transmitting a repair message of a first type about the location of the repaired defect to all the network nodes that can be reached " as required by Claim 1. Further, neither does Lu disclose or suggest a "network node in a packet transmission network operating in accordance with the packet switching method, the network having further network nodes coupled via at least a first ring and a second ring, wherein the nodes of the first ring are different then the nodes of the second ring, the network node being a member of the first ring, and wherein at least one node of the first ring operating in a pair with at least one node of the second ring, and working in opposite directions, the nodes and network node contain in status tables entries about the location of a defect and switched loops running from one ring to another in a network node, wherein the network node, after the detection of a repaired defect, is provided for changing an entry in its status table and for transmitting a repair message of the first type about

the location of the repaired defect to all the other network nodes that can be reached" as required by Claim 6. In addition, neither does Lu disclose or suggest a "ring node network comprising at least a first ring and a second ring, each ring having ring nodes that are different than the ring nodes of an other ring, at least one ring node of the first ring operating as a pair with at least one ring node of the second ring, and operating in a defect protection state, wherein each of the ring nodes comprises a status table of defect locations, wherein at least one of the plurality of ring nodes is configured to transmit a repair message to all reachable ring nodes to update the reachable ring nodes status tables" as require by Claim 7. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 6, and 7 are also allowable over Lu.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-7 are allowable and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested.

Applicant has made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.  
Respectfully submitted,

By Gregory L. Thorne

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Enclosure: Authorization To Charge Credit Card \$600.00 For 3  
Independent Claims In Excess Of Original Three  
Independent Claims (Six Total)

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